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10. An apparatus for removing scratch noise from a digitized image, comprising:

means for identifying a scratch noise area in said digitized image data;

means for defining repair window data which contains the identified scratch noise area;

means for defining sample window data which is chosen so as to resemble the features and values of said repair window data;

means for transforming said repair window data and said sample window data to data of a frequency domain;

means for generating new image data based upon said repair window transformed data and said sample window transformed data;

means for inverse-transforming said new image data;

means for generating new repair window data based upon said new image data; and

means for replacing said repair window data with said new repair window data.

11. The apparatus of claim **10**, wherein means for transforming uses a Fourier transform.

12. The apparatus of claim **10**, further comprising:

means for conforming values of said new image data to predefined limits.

13. The apparatus of claim **10**, wherein said new image data is generated using a DC magnitude value of a repair window frequency spectrum.

14. The apparatus of claim **13**, wherein said new image data is generated using a smaller of a magnitude of said repair window frequency spectrum and a magnitude of the sample window frequency spectrum.

15. The apparatus of claim **10** further comprising:

means for generating mask data which distinguishes pixels within the area of said identified scratch noise from pixels within a remainder of said image, wherein said new repair window data is generated based upon said new image data, repair window data and said mask data.

16. The apparatus of claim **15**, wherein said mask data is binary data.

17. A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for removing scratch noise from a digitized image, the method steps comprising:

identifying a scratch noise area in said digitized image data;

defining repair window data which contains the identified scratch noise area;

defining sample window data which is chosen so as to resemble the features and values of said repair window data;

transforming said repair window data and said sample window data to data of a frequency domain;

generating new image data based upon said repair window transformed data and said sample window transformed data;

inverse-transforming said new image data;

generating new repair window data based upon said new image data; and

replacing said repair window data with said new repair window data.

18. The program storage device of claim **17**, wherein said step of transforming uses a Fourier transform.

19. The program storage device of claim **17**, wherein the method further comprises the step of:

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conforming values of said new image data to predefined limits.

20. The program storage device of claim **17**, wherein said new image data is generated using a DC magnitude value of a repair window frequency spectrum.

21. The program storage device of claim **20**, wherein said new image data is generated using a smaller of a magnitude of said repair window frequency spectrum and a magnitude of the sample window frequency spectrum.

22. The program storage device of claim **17**, wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

generating mask data which distinguishes pixels within the area of said identified scratch noise from pixels within a remainder of said image, wherein

said new repair window data is generated based upon said new image data, repair window data and said mask data.

23. The program storage device of claim **22**, wherein said mask data is binary data.

24. A recording medium having digital data recorded thereon, the recording medium being prepared by the steps of:

identifying a scratch noise area in said digitized image data;

defining repair window data which contains the identified scratch noise area;

defining sample window data which is chosen so as to resemble the features and values of said repair window data;

transforming said repair window data and said sample window data to data of a frequency domain;

generating new image data based upon said repair window transformed data and said sample window transformed data;

inverse-transforming said new image data;

generating new repair window data based upon said new image data;

replacing said repair window data with said new repair window data; and

recording said new repair window data on the recording medium.

25. The recording medium of claim **24**, wherein said step of transforming uses a Fourier transform.

26. The recording medium of claim **24**, further comprising the step of:

conforming values of said new image data to predefined limits.

27. The recording medium of claim **24**, wherein said new image data is generated using a DC magnitude value of a repair window frequency spectrum.

28. The recording medium of claim **27**, wherein said new image data is generated using a smaller of a magnitude of said repair window frequency spectrum and a magnitude of the sample window frequency spectrum.

29. The recording medium of claim **24**, further comprising the steps of:

generating mask data which distinguishes pixels within the area of said identified scratch noise from pixels within a remainder of said image, wherein

said new repair window data is generated based upon said new image data, repair window data and said mask data.

30. The recording medium of claim **29**, wherein said mask data is binary data.

31. A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by